

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Pascal GAUTHIER

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: February 15, 2002

Docket No.: 111978

For: A DRIVE ELEMENT SUCH AS A DRIVING WHEEL OR A HOISTING WINCH,  
THE ELEMENT COMPRISING A SYNCHRONOUS MOTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 5, lines 31, delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 4 and 19 as follows:

4. (Amended) A driving wheel according to claim 3, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage.
19. (Amended) A hoisting winch according to claim 18, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage.

Please add new claims 27-30 as follows:

- 27. A driving wheel according to claim 4, wherein the single stepdown stage has a stepdown ratio no greater than 15. --

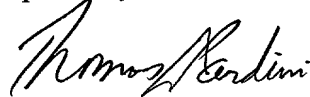
- 28. A driving wheel according to claim 27, wherein the stepdown ratio is in the range between 7 and 2. --
- 29. A hoisting winch according to claim 19, wherein the single stepdown stage has a stepdown ratio no greater than 15.--
- 30. A hoisting winch according to claim 29, wherein the stepdown ratio is in the range between 7 and 2. --

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification is amended and claims 4 and 19 are amended and claims 27-30 are added. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten paragraph (37 claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii))).

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Berridge  
Registration No. 30,024

Thomas J. Pardini  
Registration No. 30,411

WPB:TJP/cmm

Attachment: Appendix

Date: February 15, 2002

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--

APPENDIX

Changes to Specification:

Page 5, line 31:

~~MORE~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Changes to Claims:

Claims 27-30 are added.

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

4.     (Amended) A driving wheel according to claim 3, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage, ~~preferably with a stepdown ratio less than or equal to 15, in particular lying in the range 7 to 2.~~
19.    (Amended) A hoisting winch according to claim 18, wherein the gearing comprises a single stepdown stage, ~~preferably with a stepdown ratio less than or equal to 15, in particular lying in the range 7 to 2.~~